



Alpha Omega Senior College

2012

Annual Report

Principal's Message

The 2012 academic year has been a year of great accomplishments and challenges for Alpha Omega Senior College. 2012 marked the year of our first Higher School Certificate. The results were pleasing and I would like to congratulate Jason Zouki who received the highest ATAR at AOSC of 97.8. I would also like to commend our Mathematics cohort whose results placed the school in the top 100 achievers in the state for this subject. In saying this I would like to congratulate all the 2012 HSC students for securing their positions at university and for their overall accomplishments- we are proud of each and every one of our students. I am pleased to say that with each of our students aiming to achieve a place at the various universities across NSW, their goals were achieved with the majority of them now enrolled as students at the University of Sydney, the University of Technology, the University of New South Wales and the University of Western Sydney.

Alpha Omega Senior College prides itself on the importance of self growth for both staff and students. With 2012 being our second year running, it was important to not only continue this growth but allow this sense of growth to be visible by both staff and students to enhance the positive school spirit. Due to our small population of staff, it was important that staff met each week to not only discuss the formalities of their teaching and the curriculum but to also form relationships and bonds that would develop their sense of place and belonging. I am proud to say that as a result of this, there was and there continues to be a strong and consistent development in the relationships and communication between the staff within and across the faculties. This positivity has also been felt across the student body with many commenting that they felt that AOSC was like a 'second family' to them.

With student growth and development at AOSC as our key focus I am pleased to say that our 'Personal Development' department initiative has been thriving. Each week, both year 11 and 12 are allocated a 2 hour session for their 'personal development'. In these sessions our Personal Development Coordinator works with a small team of staff to not only support students with their academic progress, but also increase their life and social skills. These skills are developed through short courses such as time management and goal setting, communication skills, leadership, teamwork and project management. The most beneficial, and by far the most rewarding aspect of this program is 'The Project' that students run each year which allows them to put their skills into practice. In 2012, our year 12 cohort ran their first project which was a careers expo. The expo was held at Auburn Town Hall and with an initial budget of \$0 students worked with the local community to develop sponsorship and support that would eventually see them hold an event that catered for over 650 members of the community aged 15-23. Students were able to develop contacts with professionals from various career paths as well as university representatives from the major universities, who acted as mentors on the day providing advice for those who attended the expo. Throughout the year students also had the opportunity to run several fundraising events

including Jeans for Genes Day and the World's Greatest Shave, which saw many of our students brave the bold headed look for several weeks.

Overall, I am very pleased with our achievements in 2012 and the growth that the school has been able to develop over its 2 years. I am grateful to our staff and students for contributing their effort, honesty and dedication to grow as a community and continue to strengthen these relationships with each other after students have graduated, with many returning as mentors for current students. With our positive school outlook we look forward to a bigger and better 2013 and many more years to come.

Tarek Bayah

AOSC principal

School Captains' Message

Year 12 is the most significant journey for all students throughout high school life. This one whole year, for ordinary year 12 students, revolves around the typical cycle of sleeping, studying and eating. The difference with us students is that Alpha Omega Senior College did not 'roll' this way and decided to add some spice into this typical routine, pulling us out from the category of 'ordinary students'. As the world watches and cheers on during the Olympic games, we have our own personal Olympic games going on. We've been in the heats and qualifiers for 12 years, and now, finally, the finals are here. This year was our time to aim for those gold metals – not only in studies, but in every aspect of our lives, attaining success in every way. As we, Alpha Omega students, closed one door with one hand, we were, and still are, constantly opening many other doors with the other...

The main benefit of Alpha Omega Senior College is the many ways we have been armed and prepared to succeed in challenges of the outside world. Unlike any other schools, we have had the privilege of attending courses during an additional class called 'Personal Development', in which we gained life skills, not only beneficial for our HSC year, but for many aspects of the future too. But these courses were only the beginning of the advancements to becoming extraordinary students, as we have also had the opportunity of actually experiencing the outside world. As part of the Personal Development class, we have undertaken two major projects. In year 11, the students were assigned the task of planning the renovation of a big indoor space for the school without the help of any teachers. This opened their eyes to the real business world, as we had to take many things into consideration, such as time management, having a budget, communicating with construction workers and businesses, etc. In year 12 we had a greater mission of running a career expo for the MSA organisation, which has been happening for 6 years. We had to plan and direct an event for around 1000 attendees, which enabled us to reach even higher levels of skills, managing areas such as sponsorships, marketing, buying products, calling people with specific professions and operating the actual day. Being familiar with different aspects of the outside world, we are all definitely ready to take on the future.

Alpha Omega Senior College had a different perspective to the usual schools; we were not teenagers, but we were instead seen as adults. They have moulded us into becoming adults, maturing into the best possible person we can be. Nothing means more to a person than the opinions of their mother, so when my mum tells me "You've changed so much and it makes me proud to call you my daughter", the tear that drops makes me certain that Alpha Omega Senior College has accomplished their goal into transforming us to become mature and close-to-perfect adults.

This is, without a doubt, an extraordinary school, making us all well-rounded people. It is a school where the principal is not really a principal, but rather a father, enlightening us with advice and guidance for the future. It is a school where the deputy is not really a deputy, but a mother, always being by our side and taking care of us, picking each and every one of us up when we have fallen. It is a school where the teachers are not really teachers, but rather our best friends, helping us with our decisions in life and giving us knowledge which will benefit us for the rest of our lives. It is a school, which is not really a school, but instead a home, where everyone is part of a big family, constantly motivating and supporting one another to achieve the possible best. It has been an amazing journey, in which we all have won those 'gold medals' in many aspects of life.

The AOSC School Captains: Abdullatif Holali & Yasmine Sindian

The AOSC School Vice Captains: Mahmoud Saddik & Rama Mohamed.

Contextual information about the school:

Alpha Omega Senior College (AOSC) is a modern coeducational college for year 11 and 12 students which opened at the commencement of the 2011 academic for its first preliminary cohort.

Our aim is to inspire every individual in our school community, parents, students and staff, to believe in the change they can make in the world and provide them with the support that will allow this change to become a reality. At AOSC, we aim to position ourselves to become a leader in education by taking a comprehensive approach to the academic, social and personal learning of all our students. At AOSC we have developed a team of educators unified by their shared goal to strive towards absolute and exceptional student achievement. Alpha Omega Senior College, through its tolerant, caring and nurturing environment promotes strong community values with a specific focus on respect and responsibility.

At Alpha Omega Senior College the values we uphold are:

1. Educational excellence
2. Responsibility
3. Independence
4. Leadership
5. Community awareness
6. Good character
7. Success
8. Respect
9. Integrity
10. Transparency

SES score: 92

Some of our school body achievements for this reporting year:

- Students have a consistent 2 hours of week of personal development. Some of the course which AOSC students have completed are:
 - Time management
 - Goal setting
 - Project management
 - Exam skills
 - Stress management skills
 - Memory enhancement

- Students have participated in fundraising for Jeans for Genes day
- Sports committee- planned and executed 4 fun and innovative sports days
- Jersey committee- designed, planned and ordered the Year 12 jersey for 2013
- Students participated in the “ Healthy Minds, Healthy Body” Seminar- a seminar that was focused on the 3 main aspects of health- physical, psychological and social
- Whole college approach directed at our values- especially those of tolerance, understanding and fairness.
- Special days during school holidays to promote curriculum areas and allow students to have an uninterrupted time to develop skills and ideas in different subject area.
- Year 12 students planned and executed a successful careers expo- The MSA careers expo for which they needed to work out logistics, provide sponsors and run the full day. There were over 3000 people who attended this careers expo.

Student outcomes in standardised national literacy and numeracy testing

Alpha Omega Senior College is a college which caters for year 11 and year 12 students only and as such, there have been no NAPLAN tests completed at our school.

Student performance in state-wide tests and examinations

Higher School Certificate

44 students sat for the NSW Higher School Certificate in 14 courses. In total, 83% of candidates across all courses achieved band 4 or higher. In 8 out of 14 courses, student achievement was above state level.

Table 1- 2012 Higher School Certificate Test Results

Subject	Number of students	Performance band achievement by number	
		Band 1-3	Band 4-6
Biology	32	11	21
Business Studies	21	0	21
Chemistry	22	12	10
English Standard	26	0	26
English Advanced	14	0	14
English as a second language	4	1	3
Legal Studies	15	1	14
General mathematics	16	0	16
Mathematics 2 unit	18	4	14
Mathematics Extension 1	7	E1- E2- 2	E3-E4- 5
Mathematics Extension 2	7	E1- E2- 2	E3-E4-5
PDHPE	11	2	9
Physics	11	6	5
Studies of Religion II	10	3	7

Professional learning and teacher standards:

Teaching Standards	
Teacher Category	Number of teachers
Teachers having teacher education qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines.	10
Teachers having a bachelor degree from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lacking formal teacher education qualifications.	0
Teachers not having qualifications as described in (i) or (ii) but having relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate knowledge relevant to the teaching context. Such 'teachers' must have been employed to 'teach' in NSW before 1 October 2004 (either on a permanent, casual, or temporary basis), and as a 'teacher' during the last five (5) years in a permanent, casual or temporary capacity.	0

Workforce Composition

- Total full time teaching staff equivalent- 8.5
- Total full time non teaching staff equivalent – 4.0

Professional learning

All AOSC staff attended a variety of Professional learning activities. Some of these courses are listed below:

- Child protection – all staff
- First AID – all staff
- AITSL- National Professional Standard for Principals by Dame Pat Collarbone
- IT training – new school management software
- Staff Induction
- Literacy was the focus of courses undertaken by staff in all departments including HSIE, English. Mathematics and science in school
- Classroom management training for the less experienced staff
- There was a focus on staff development around our behavioral management system and raising responsibility

Reporting Area 7: Senior secondary outcomes

In 2012, 100% of the year 12 cohort participated in the HSC. There were no VET courses studies at the school.

Student attendance and management of non-attendance

Student Attendance Rates in 2012	
Year Level	Attendance rate (%)
Year 11	96%
Year 12	95%

The overall school attendance for 2012 was 95.5%.

Management of non-attendance

It is the policy of Alpha Omega Senior College that an accurate record of daily attendance as per the new NSW Attendance Register Codes is maintained using Roll Call books. All parents /guardians of our year 11 and year 12 students are expected to support the college's rules.

Absences

In the case of day-to-day absences due to illness or misadventure, the parents/guardians of the student are expected to notify the college by calling before 7:30am. When a student is recorded as absent during roll call, parents/ guardians are sent an SMS explaining that their child is absent from school. Upon the student's return to school, the student must bring a note from home explaining the absence. The note must include the date of absence, the reason for absence and in the case of illness or appointment, the nature of illness or appointment. All notes are to be handed in to the roll call teacher during roll call For instances where no letter of explanation is handed in, the student is marked as having an unexplained absence.

Lateness

If a student comes to school after the end of roll call, the student is to report to the reception to obtain a late note. This note is to be shown to the classroom teacher and is then to be signed by parents.

Extended leave

AOSC students are expected to attend school every day. Students who wish to travel or require an extended leave of absence will need to notify the College **one** month in advanced of their leave. Students must complete **ALL** relevant documentation before any extended leave will be approved. The approval of the application for extended leave remains solely with the discretion of the Principal.

Retention of Year 10 to Year 12

AOSC caters for year 11 and year 12 specifically, this section does not apply to our school.

Post- School destinations

Out of 44 year 12 students,

43 of the students enrolled in various universities

1 student went to a private college

Enrolment policies and characteristics of the student body

Alpha Omega Senior College (AOSC) enrolment Policy

Alpha Omega Senior College (AOSC) is a modern coeducational college for year 11 and 12 students which operate within the polices of the NSW board of studies. AOSC does not discriminate with regards to enrolments on the basis of gender, disability or special needs however the College may not be able to accommodate all students given the limitations of space, number, specialised facilities and special needs teachers. Once students have enrolled, they are expected to support the College's ethos and abide by and respect all the college's rules to maintain their enrolments.

Enrolment:

- Admission to the students is given on a yearly basis.
- Year 10 students looking to enroll into year 11 are required to sit for a school determined examination. Students must achieve the required grades for enrolment to be processed.
- All students looking to enroll into Alpha Omega Senior College will be interviewed by the Deputy Principal/ principal and must satisfy a selection criterion.

Enrolment procedure at AOSC- Year 10 student enrolling into year 11

1. Return the completed and signed Expression of Interest form.
 2. Parent/ guardian of student will be contacted to complete a school determined examination according to a selection criteria set by the school.
 3. All students will be contacted with the result from their assessment and an interview will be booked with the Deputy Principal or Principal for all successful applicants.
 4. Successful applicants will be required to attend an interview with Deputy Principal or Principal. Students attending an interview are required to bring with them any past school reports, NAPLAN results and any other documentation supporting their application into AOSC.
 5. Successful applicants will then be required to hand in the AOSC application form with the first term's fees to secure a position at the school.
 6. Parents new to the college must also attend an interview with the Business Administrator.
- Enrolment will comply with the Disability Discrimination Act.
 - Continued enrolment into year 12 is dependent on the student respecting the school ethos, rules and expectations as well as payment of the school fees.

Any students looking to enrol into year 12 only (at the end of year 11), will be dealt with on a case- by- case basis.

Student Population

Alpha Omega Senior College – 2012- 82 students of which there were 44 year 12 students and 38 year 11 students. The gender balance in the whole school was 41 girls and 41 boys. The students at AOSC come from a wide range of backgrounds, including language backgrounds other than English with a few students with special needs.

School policies

A- Student welfare policies

AOSC seeks to provide a safe and supportive environment which:

- Minimizes risk of harm and ensures students feel secure
- Supports the personal, academic, physical, social and emotional wellbeing and development of all students.
- Provided student welfare policies and program that develop a sense of self-worth and foster personal development

Policy	Changes in 2012	Access to text
AOSC Code of Conduct- includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative context • Required reporting • Discrimination, harassment and Bullying policy • Duty of care • Work health and safety • Supervision of students • Child Protection Policy 	Revised	This was issued to all staff in staff induction day. Also included in policy folders located on school grounds.
AOSC charter of rights and responsibilities	No changes	This was issued to all staff in staff induction day. This was also explained to students in Student induction days. This has now been added to the AOSC student diaries. Also included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Anti- Bullying policy	No changes	Included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Critical Incident Management policy	No changes	Included in policy folders located on school grounds. Also explained during Child Protection training
Communication policy	No changes	This is found in student's diaries. Also included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Pastoral care policy	No changes	Included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Dispensing of Medication Policy	No changes	Included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Onsite risk assessment Policy	No changes	Included in policy folders located on school grounds.

School building Security Policy	No changes	Included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Student mobile phone policy	No change	This was issued to all staff in staff induction day. This was also explained to students in Student induction days. This policy is found partially in the student's diaries. Also included in policy folders located on school grounds.
Emergency evacuation and Lockdown Policy	No change	Included in policy folders located on school grounds.
B- Student discipline Policy		
<p>All AOSC students are expected to abide by the AOSC school rules and any instructions given by school staff. The school rules are found in the front of the school diary.</p> <p>All staff members must abide by the AOSC Discipline Policy which was issued to staff during the staff induction day. Where disciplinary action is required, penalties will be determined and imposed according to nature of the breach of discipline and the student's prior behaviour.</p> <p>All disciplinary action decided by school staff against any student including detention, suspension, expulsion or exclusion will be based in procedural fairness. The AOSC Discipline Policy was issued to all staff members during induction and has been explained to students during the Student Induction Day.</p>		
C- Complaints and grievances policy		
<p>The school's policy for dealing with complaints and grievance includes processes for raising and responding to matters of concerns identified by staff, parents and students. All these processes incorporate principles of procedural fairness. No changes were made to the Complaints Handling Procedure during 2012. This policy can be found in the policy folders on school grounds.</p>		

Reporting Area 13- School determined improvement targets

As AOSC is a newly established school, achievements of previous improvements targets cannot be made. Each year, the school develops an Annual Development Plan comprising priority areas for development, performance indicators and strategies. This plan is discussed with school board and an extensive evaluation process of the priority areas is carried out. One of the major target area for 2012 will be the improvement of student literacy in all subjects. As our students come from a wide range of backgrounds, mostly non- English speaking, this focus on improved literacy will help our students achieve more pleasing results in their HSC examinations. The literacy focus will also be reflected on our targets for our staff, whereby additional training will need to be carried out to ensure overall literacy improvement at school.

Reporting Area 14- Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility

Alpha Omega Senior College employs a range of different strategies to implement the values of respect and responsibility in our students. Our school 's motto- Belief, action, change helps our student understand that it is the belief in themselves and others and that can bring about the action that will result in the change that they would like to see in the world. At AOSC we believe that by educating and supporting our students, they will in turn become better and more responsible Australian citizens showing respect to themselves, their communities and the society as a whole.

The concepts of respect and responsibility are greatly emphasised during The AOSC Personal Development Program. The AOSC Personal Development Program is a program which is run on a weekly basis as part of the AOSC Pastoral Care program. Through this program students are gaining the essential skills which they need to help make them more responsible individuals that can give back to the community. Our students have been working closely with different organisations in the community, to help others in need. Some of the activities that our students have participated in are:

- Jeans for genes day
- The World's Greatest Shave
- Our students are currently planning and running a careers expo for July 2013. This is a free and voluntary service that students are providing to other students in NSW.

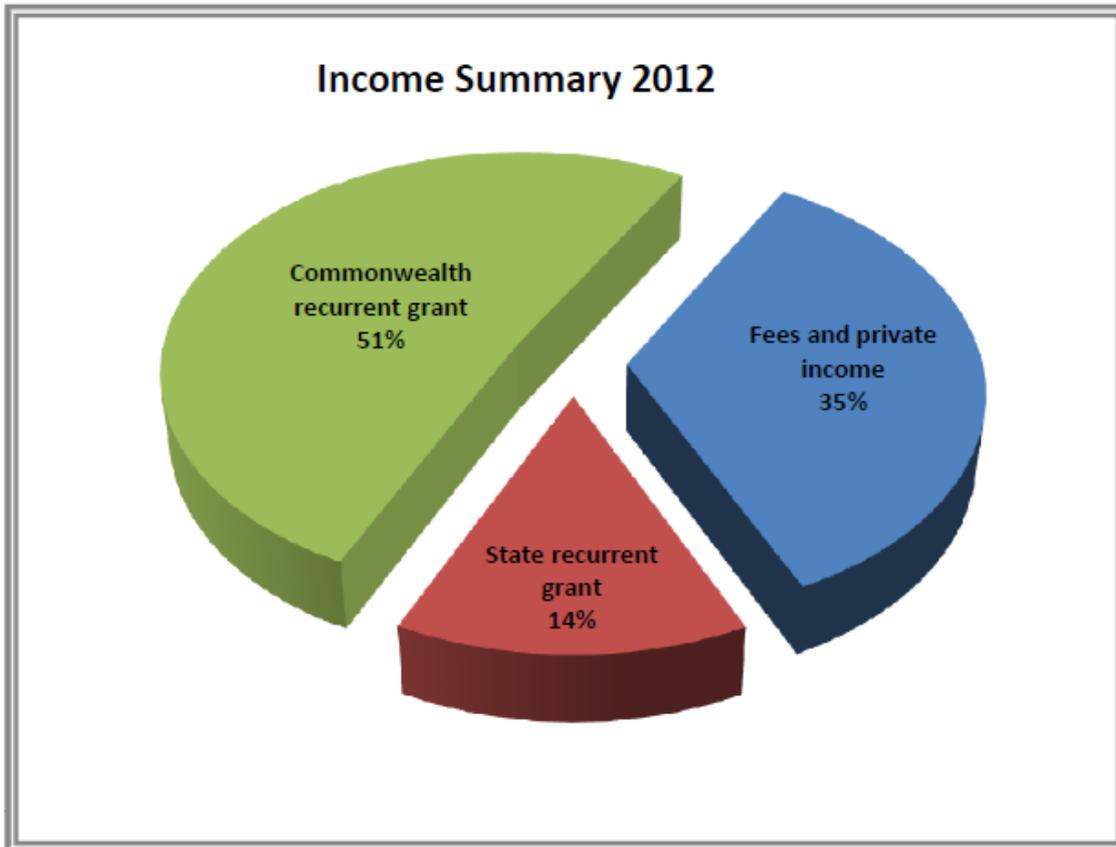
Reporting Area 15- Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Parents have expressed their high satisfaction with the education their children are receiving at our school. Parents have thanked our staff for the continued support which our staff has presented to their children. Parents are happy with the holistic education that students are receiving at AOSC and appreciate the open door policy which we provide for our students and their families.

A high level of teacher and support staff morale is indicated by staff retention rates, staff involvement in voluntary activities and verbal surveys. Student morale is high, evidenced by the level of school pride and high attendance rates. Our students have shown us through their words and general enthusiasm for school, their satisfaction with the efforts that the school is contributing to their schooling experience.

Reporting Area 16: Summary financial information

Graphic 1: Recurrent/capital income. with segments detailing percentages derived from:



Graphic 2: Recurrent/capital expenditure, showing percentages spent on:

